EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

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DATE: December 8, 2004

TO: Commission on EMS

FROM: Richard E. Watson

Interim Director

Prepared by: Maureen McNeil

Chief, EMS Division

SUBJECT: Vision IV Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive the information.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

DISCUSSION:

The CPR Workgroup met on October 26, 2004. Co-Chairs Baucom and Blaul led the discussion and consensus was reached on several key areas (minutes attached). The group agreed to meet again on November 29, 2004 to complete the discussion. In early November the California Performance Review Commission issued a 12 page overview of their recommendations (attached) for short term action. The report can be found at www.cpr.ca.gov. Among the recommendations is to not transfer the "Emergency Management Agency" to the new public Safety Department, and instead leave it in the Health and Human Services (HHS) Agency. The report further suggested that HHS create work groups, which should include representatives of local governments, to work out details.

The CPR Workgroup reached consensus on many principles related to how the EMS Authority should function. The only remaining issues were questions of specific reporting relationships and location within HHS or Public Safety. In light of the changing landscape regarding this issue, Co-Chairs Baucom and Blaul suggested that the work done thus far be retained and used as a starting point with the HHS work group. They further suggested that a second meeting focused on the remaining topics be held in abeyance until the HHS work group is selected and begins work.

The CPR Workgroup was surveyed on whether they felt it was necessary to meet on Vision IV Workgroup November 29, 2004. The majority responded that it was not necessary; therefore, the meeting was cancelled. Co-Chairs Baucom and Blaul will discuss with the Commission today on how to proceed.

